

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Editorially amend the specification.
2. Thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter if claims 8-11 and 23-27.
3. Rewrite claims 8 and 23 as independent claims, and amend dependencies of various other claims for dependency upon either independent claim 8 or independent claim 23.
4. Cancel claims 1, 12-17, 22, and 28-32 without prejudice or disclaimer.
5. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.
6. Apprise the Examiner of the filing of a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the provisional rejection of claims 1-32 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 2-10, 12-19, 28-33 and 35-42 of copending application no. 10/717,313 and the provisional rejection of claims 1-38 of copending application no. 10/717,203.

B. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

FELTER
Serial No. 10/717,212

Atty Dkt: 2380-797
Art Unit: 2611

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: /H. Warren Burnam, Jr./

H. Warren Burnam, Jr.
Reg. No. 29,366

HWB:lsb
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100